



VOLUME LXXI NUMBER 6

July 2024



EBARC
Meetings
Next meeting, July 12, 2024

Unitarian
Universalist
Church

Of Berkeley

Safir Room
1 Lawson Rd.,
Kensington, CA

Check your email for Zoom link.



The Executive Committee is currently meeting via Zoom on the Tuesday before the second Friday General Meeting.

Welcome EBARC Members to the seventh edition of the Blown Fuse for 2024.

Please plan to join us at the meeting on July 12, 2024, in-person or on the Zoom Link.

Program: To be determined

Thanks to members who brought refreshments to the June meeting.

The Blown Fuse is published monthly by the East Bay Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and is a service provided as part of membership. *The Blown Fuse* welcomes articles of interest to its members and amateur radio in general. *The Blown Fuse* reserves the right to edit or reject any material submitted. Material submitted becomes the property of *The Blown Fuse*. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce material printed herein provided proper acknowledgment is given. Editor: Audrey Nieman W6BBQ
Deadline for August Issue is July 25, 2024.

Blown Fuse Archive is fully digitized

Thanks to the efforts of the **Digital Library of Amateur Radio & Communication (DLARC)** the EBARC Blown Fuse Newsletters have been digitized. The newsletters are now accessible through your computer internet browser. You can peruse issues as far back as 1964. Nearly complete full year volumes existed from 1970 and later. The newsletters are a part of the broader Internet Archive. This digitizing effort was paid for by the **Amateur Radio Digital Communications Foundation**. The archive can be accessed at the following URL:
<https://archive.org/details/east-bay-arc?sort=title&and%5B%5D=year%3A%5B1969+TO+2024%5D>
Your President expressed thanks for to the Curator of DLARC for enabling this archiving project.

President's Message

Field Day 2024 is now behind us. There is nothing like a deadline to motivate. For me I was able to get more familiar with QRP radios I've had for a while but had relegated because I acquired more powerful desktop radios. I got my Xiegu X6100 and Xiegu 5105 charged, connected, and working with a very early Xiegu X125 amp. I updated the radio firmware to the latest versions and made a few trial contacts prior to field day. I similarly set up an SDRPlay RSP2 receiver coupled with SDR Uno software for a Windows 11 Laptop. I finally spent some time with the Club Kenwood TS440 prior to Field Day but not enough. Prior to Field Day I was finding too little traffic to learn all of the control features on the Kenwood. Because of my ignorance, during Field Day proper, I was unable to adjust the Kenwood to pull out clear readable signals from the many Field Day Operators trying to make contacts. I personally made one QSO. Our experienced W6CUS trustee, Chris Harwood, was able to adjust the radio to hear and send several calls during the event. We did hear calls from as far away as the Great Lakes region, San Diego, Northwestern Washington State. We had about 8 children under 15 years old observe the GOTA station operations. Due to my inability, I was unable to tune the Kenwood to a frequency for them to make calls. We also had the SDRPlay receiver assisting in locating traffic. The SDRPlay has a waterfall display which helps in finding traffic on the bands. The Club Kenwood uses an analog needle meter to indicate proper tuning. While our youngest visitors did not make contacts, we did help a newly licensed ham and some familiar faces (a.k.a. club members) get on the air. The GOTA station didn't collect many QSOs in the Log. We documented 3 contacts on 40m and 2 contacts on 15m. We did have many long conversations with people and their children about Ham Radio. Karen Fenton also promoted GMRS and FRS radios as gateway devices for radio. As you know, getting on the air with those devices is a bit easier due to the no testing requirements. Time will tell if our efforts will inspire the visitors to get involved. As is often the case the teacher I (a.k.a. the GOTA station operators, me) learned a lot more than the students (a.k.a. the GOTA visitors). I am pleased that I got my Xiegus and SDR Play working. With a four band End fed half wave antenna I also have I should be ready for other Field operating events coming up. Hope your Field Day was fun.

Minutes of the June Meeting

.EBARC HYBRID GENERAL MEEETING JUNE 14, 2024

The EBARC General Meeting was held on Friday June 14, 2024, as a hybrid meeting. The In-person meeting occurred at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkely (UUCB) at 1 Lawson Road, Kensington CA 94704-1015. The on-line meeting was held via the Zoom internet conferencing application. There were 8 members present plus two guests. There were 7 on the Zoom link.

The meeting was called to order by President Todd Teachout W8BIK at 7:16 PM. Present were Vice President Howdy Goudey KE6BEE, Treasurer Audrey Nieman W6BBQ, Secretary Jan Kuhl AC5RB and members Jeff Miller KJ6RHF, Frans Kuypers KJ6IUV, Mike Camp KI7FQ, Robin Fraatz-Camp KE6MRH and guests Carrie Joy KK6BKR and Peter Hoffman W6DEI. On Zoom were Karen Fenton KK6ZPM, Jay Fenton KJ6WSS, Robin Mitchel KN6CRP, DJ Djovida KJ6DJ, Lorraine Schnurr KN6CRT, Don Simon NI6A and Robin Spalding N6RLS.

The agenda was approved as posted. There were self-introductions. Todd thanked Jay, Howdy and Mike for getting the CERT shed moved and getting the Antenna set up. He also said Ross Talarico W6OGX made his 1000 contacts for POTA (parks on the air) at Rosie the Riveter. There has been a lot of HF grid action with the sun, to enhance and to interfere with connections. MINUTES- It was moved by Jan Kuhl and seconded by Todd Teachout to accept the minutes from the May 10, 2024, minutes as posted in the Blown Fuse. MOTION CARRIED

CCCC PICNIC- Jan Kuhl reported members of EBARC and KARO-ECHO are invited to the CCCC annual picnic on September 8, 2024. It will be held at Point Richmond and will be a Potluck, and there will be a 50/50 drawing for the Repeater fund.

PROGRAMS- Howdy Goudey said there was no program for this evening but has two planned for the future. Ross Talarico about his POTA contacts. DJ Djovida has created a video interviewing him, and Jim Marks who has been following different HF gatherings and QSO parties, even attending them in different states.

TECH REPORT- Howdy said the Kensington CERT shed has been moved as needed. Jay Fenton KJ6WSS fabricated tower brackets and with help installed a tower, feedline, and antenna. He set a pully to the mast to allow for HF wire antennas to be installed and so they can be adjusted to different frequencies. Howdy is improving the security of the door latch and lock on the building, and he will co-ordinate with Kensington Fire District. Hal Graboske, KK6DNF, and steward of the CERT shed sent out an email dated May 31, 2024, to Todd, W8BIK, Howdy KE6BEE and three staff at the Unitarian Church. In the e-mail, Hal indicated that the shed is primarily to be used as a station (by CERT and KARO-ECHO), not a storage box for radio club equipment. In another e-mail dated April 18, 2024, sent to Howdy, Todd and Jan, Hal indicated the shed is owned by the Kensington Fire District.

There was discussion about equipment that has been donated by SKs, and some old equipment items. We need to inventory everything to figure what to keep or sell or tear down. If anyone in the membership wants to learn what's there, let Todd know.

CW CLASSES- There hasn't been much support for it, there are 5 people interested, 3 that would be a review and 2 new people to learn. Anyone interested i please feel free to share resources. SWAG- mentioned in the Blown Fuse, but not much response at this time. The matter is put on hold. GOOGLE GROUP-Todd deleted those who were not members of EBARC. That left 20 members. There were 28 added. He said he wasn't sure who received the invitation; there were none of the 28 that were added and a couple of NO's. There may be some interest in re-establishing an HF net around the county, 40 meters and 60 meters.

FIELD DAY- EBARC has been invited to join KARO-ECHO at Kensington Library Park. Chris Harwood AA6AT and Todd Teachout W8BIK will be setting up a GOTA (get on the air) station. There is equipment and supplies in our storage. Ken Fowler KO6NO may have some signs and Kanoli O'Leari KB6EMG may have a banner. Howdy said this was the second year at the Kensington Library in the park area, a large lot by the courts. The Designation will be 3AEB, three stations and GOTA.

An HF tower, CW digital, VHF-UHF, with 5 operators will rotate throughout the day. The GOTA is typically on side band. Don Simon said that a non -ham can operate if a licensed ham is there. There will be no overnight set up, just Saturday. Howdy said signups are welcome for anyone that can put in the time. For logging in would be helpful to have a computer at each station. DJ will be doing some Videos of the day. MFJ- The Company is still emptying its warehouse but has stopped all productions.

Peter Hoffman W6DEI, a former active member of EBARC for many years, would like to find a good home for his equipment. He will give a list to be put into the Blown Fuse. All of it is in good condition.

MEETING ADJOURNED 8:00PM

Respectfully submitted.

Jan Kuhl, Secretary

Looking Back 25 years and 50 years ago in the Blown Fuse

25 years ago

President John Wood, KF6HFA, wished everyone a worthwhile FD experience as well as reported on his daughter's graduation. A Club Station work party was being organized for July 17, 1999, at the station site at 3200 McDonald. Projects include antenna work, door repair, modifications to a lay-over crank up tower, and some painting. The Red Oak Victory was having a Fundraising BBQ and fireworks watch party on July 4th. The June General Meeting minutes indicated that Ron Smith, KE6RS, 1999 FD Chair, discussed the final FD preparations. 1999 FD was held in Berkeley at Caesar Chaves Park.

50 Years ago

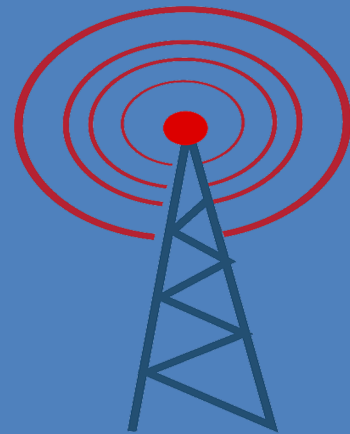
President Gene, WB6IBU expressed appreciation to the members who lead a Novice Test Prep class and exam. The class resulted in 8 people getting their Novice Licenses. 26 people started the class. There was a Field Day report. EBARC's 1974 FD was held at the UC Richmond Field Station. Contacts were as follows: 2m-24, 20m-62, 40m-130+/- (duplicates not fully determined), then another 13 contacts on bands not specified using a SB-34 Sideband Transceiver which covered 80m. 40m, 20m, 15m. There was an invitation for members to prepare mini-biographies for inclusion in future Blown Fuses. There were excerpt reports about Licensing, Logging, Information about the upcoming Pacific Division ARRL Convention to be held in San Mateo, then a summary of licensing structure discussions.

PENDING ITEMS

CLUB Station: Still on-hold pending meetings with the UUCB Faith Leader, and Executive Director and/or other UUCB personnel.

Vacancies:

- Membership, 3rd VP
- Blown Fuse Permanent Editor
- Licensed Volunteer Examiners & Testing
- Coordinator Radio Operator License Test Prep
- Instructors Community Support (Sports events, scouting, Maker Faires)
- Program Presenters



FOR SALE

After 20 years of passionately chasing DX on the HF bands I'm leaving the ham radio hobby. I'd love to have my equipment go the proverbial "good home" and hope that one of you or somebody you know could use and enjoy it. Prices well below market rate and negotiable from there. Everything is in very good condition and at this point is all hooked up and available to try out at my shack.

Here's a summary of what I've got:

Yaesu FT-950 transceiver (w/original box)

Yaesu FT-450D transceiver (w/original box)

MFJ 969 manual antenna tuner

Alinco DM340 power supply (heavy duty transformer type)

QRP Labs QCX 20 meter CW transceiver

Yaesu 450A antenna rotor, control box, and 75' cable

MFJ 259B Antenna analyzer SWR meter

Benchner BY-1 CW key

Power Wrxz switching power supply

Hamstick type mobile antennas (40, 20, 10 meters)

MFJ telescoping vertical (1/4 wave on 20 meters and up)

Several 75-100 ft lengths of good RG213 coax cable

Crank-up tower like EBARC uses at Field Day

20 or so 4' sections 2" diameter mast (both aluminum and fiberglass)

Lots of wire for antennas

Lots of aluminum tubing for antennas

You can contact me (Peter Hoffman, W6DEI) at:

dei.peter@prodigy.net

or leave a voice mail at (510) 684-6543

Treasurer's Report	Audrey Nieman
June 28, 2024	W6BBQ
<u>Beginning Balance</u> 5/27/24	\$7477.86
<u>Income:</u>	0
<u>Total Disbursements</u>	0
<u>Ending Balance:</u>	\$7477.86
Portion as Petty Cash	\$ 40.00
Portion as CD	\$ 5000.00

KUDOS for Ross Talarico, W6OGX for getting the POTA Kilo Award at Rosie the Riveter Park

In his own words:

Hello Ham Friends,

Yesterday I got home from work and saw that the 20M band was open and propagation was excellent.

So, I packed up my car and headed to Rosie. I started the activation at 02:03 UTC and ended at 03:53 UTC. It was cold out there - the marine layer was coming in and the wind was howling. Then sun slowly faded over the horizon as I made the last few contacts. Tom, KN6BUY was #998. I made 92 contacts, mostly on 20M. I was able to work 24 states and Canada in this activation. AK, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IN, KY, MI, MN, MT, ND, NM, NY, OR, PA, SD, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, WY. It was a good night.

So- that put me over the 1000 contacts and I got the “kilo award” this morning after uploading and verification of the log by Parks-on-the-Air. Thanks to everyone who was following along on this pursuit. POTA is a really fun way to be active on ham radio. Maybe 2000 is next?

**Ross
W6OGX**

Let us all celebrate Ross’ achievement and let it serve as an inspiration to get on the air.

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club, founded in 1947, is a California non-profit organization of amateur radio operators in Contra Costa and Alameda counties. The club is open to anyone interested in amateur radio. Annual dues are \$35 for individual membership, \$45 for a family membership, and \$10 for students K-12. For information, send email to ebham.office@gmail.com, contact any EBARC officer, see Web page www.ebarc.org, or write EBARC, P.O. Box 1393, El Cerrito, CA 94530. You can also follow us on Twitter using @w6cus, or on Facebook's "East Bay Amateur Radio Club."

2024 East Bay Amateur Radio Club Executive Committee

Todd Teachout, W8BIK, President	510-799-6051
Jan Kuhl, AC5RB, Secretary.....	510-846-3829
Howdy Goudey, KE6BEE, 1 st VP / Program Chair	510-684-9097
Audrey Nieman, W6BBQ, / Membership Chair	510-682-7938
Audrey Nieman, W6BBQ, Treasurer / Finance Chair	510-682-7938

2024 EBARC's Other Committee Heads and Contacts

<i>Blown Fuse</i> Editor: Audrey Nieman, W6BBQ	510-682-7938
W6CUS Trustee Chris Harwood	510-332-7383
Webmasters: Chris & Isaac Harwood	510-332-7383

Bay Area Amateur Radio Nets

Net	Days	Time	PL	FREQ MHZ
Over the Hill Commuter CCCC	M-F	0710	82.5-	145.110
CCCC 220 Net	Tues	1930	82.5+	224.300
WC EMCOMM Net	Thu	1845	82.5	145.110
CCCC Evening Net	Thu	1930	82.5-	145.110
KARO/ECHO EMCOMM NET	Thu	1900	simplex	146.415
NALCO ARES EMCOMM Net	Thu	1915	77-	440.900
ORCA Net	Thu	1930	77	146.880
Bay Area EMCOMM Net	SAT	0900	82.5-	145.110
CCCC WC Net	Sat	0915	82.5-	224.300
Bay Area Comm Net	Sat	0930	82.5+	444.275
Cert FL Digi Net	Sat	1000	82.5+	444.275

Upcoming Ham Radio Activities- July 2024

Contests		
Event Name	Info/Rules	Time/Date
RAC Canada Day (160,80,40,20,15,10,6,2)	https://contest.rac.ca/	0000Z-2359Z, Jul 1
Marconi Memorial HF Contest (160,80,40,20,15,10)	http://www.arifano.it/contest_marconi.html	1400Z, Jul 6 to 1400Z, Jul 7
IARU HF World Championship (160,80,40,20,15,10)	http://www.arrl.org/iaru-hf-world-championship	1200 UTC, Sat to 1159 UTC Sun, July 13-14
4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint (160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10m)	http://www.4sqr.com/SSS/sss_rules.pdf	0000Z-0200Z, Jul 15
Maidenhead Mayhem Contest	https://w9et.com/rules.html	0000Z, Jul 20 to 2359Z, Jul 28
YOTA Contest	https://www.ham-yota.com/contest/	1000Z-2159Z, Jul 20
CQ Worldwide VHF Contest	https://www.cqww-vhf.com/	1800Z, Jul 20 to 2100Z, Jul 21
North American QSO Party, RTTY	https://www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf	1800Z, Jul 20 to 0559Z, Jul 21
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	http://qrpccontest.com/pigrun/	2300Z, Jul 21 to 0100Z, Jul 22
MARAC US Counties QSO Party	http://www.marac.org/contests.htm	0000Z, Jul 27 to 2400Z, Jul 28
ARS Flight of the Bumblebees	https://arsqrp.blogspot.com/2022/07/rules-adventure-radio-society-2022.html	1700Z-2100Z, Jul 28
222 MHz and Up Distance Contest	https://www.arrl.org/222-mhz-and-up-distance-contest	1800Z Aug 3 to 1759Z Aug4
Rookie Roundup – RTTY	https://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup	1800Z-2359Z Aug 18

More Contest info at <https://www.contestcalendar.com/fivewkcal.html>

And at <https://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>

DX peditions

Jarvis Island, August 5-20,2024, N5J team is comprised of AA7JV, N1DG, HA7RY, KN4EEI.
They will operate on 160 - 6m, CW, SSB, FT8.
DXCC Country - Jarvis and Palmyra.

Saint Paul Island, August 26- Sept 5, CY9C team is comprised of WA4DAN, W0GJ, W0PR, N2IEN, N2TU, WW2DX, W4DKS, K4ZLE, K9CT, K9NW.
They will operate on 160 - 6m CW, SSB, RTTY, EME, SAT, FT8.
QSL via WA4DAN direct, OQRS, LOTW

Burkina Faso. Oct 3-Nov 11, 2024. XT2MD Team comprised of I8KHC, IZ4UEZ, IZ2GNQ, DL8JJ, OK2WX, HB9TOC, IU3PMA, F6IRA, YO8PS, DJ5IW.
They will operate on HF Bands and EME.
QSL via IK2VUC buro or direct.

Rotuma Island (Fiji), IOTA, Nov 15- Dec 4, 2024, 3D2Z team is comprised of W6IZT, W8HC, K4NHW and others.

More DX pedition info at <https://dxnews.com/dxpeditions/>